

Object Handler - Work Files

This section describes work files and valid formats that apply to the unload, load and scan functions of the Object Handler.

See also Work File Options in the section Settings.

This section covers the following topics:

- Work File Assignment
 - Work File Format
-

Work File Assignment

The following table lists the work files used by the Object Handler:

File	Explanation
Work File 1	Used for the unload, load and scan functions. Contains the data unloaded.
Work File 4	Used to record the execution of a command that contains a DIRECT clause (see Direct and PROCEDURE Workplan Commands).
Work File 7	Only used if Entire Connection is installed. Work File 7 must be defined as Entire Connection work file to be used for the unload, load and scan functions when Use PC File is specified for the Unload/Load/Scan Settings. Contains the data unloaded.
Work File 8	Only applies if Entire Connection is installed. Work File 8 must be defined as Entire Connection work file to be used for the unload, load and scan functions when Use PC File is specified for the Unload/Load/Scan Settings.

Work File Format

There are two file formats for unloading objects in the source environment into work files and for loading them from work files into the target environment: an internal format and the Transfer format. To transfer binary data, the work files must be of internal format. To transfer text data, the work files must be of Transfer format.

The section below covers the following topics:

- Internal Format
- Transfer Format

Internal Format

This format is used to transfer Natural sources and cataloged objects, error messages, Natural command processor sources, Adabas FDTs (Field Definition Tables), Natural DDMs (data definition modules) and Natural-related objects from one environment to another. To achieve this, the Object Handler uses the internal format, an internal record layout for the work files.

With the internal format activated, Natural objects are read from the source environment and written into a Natural work file by using the unload function of the Object Handler. This work file can be transported to another environment with standard file transfer services. In the target environment, the objects can then be read from the work file and loaded into the local database system with the load function of the Object Handler.

To transfer objects between identical platforms, use work files of internal format.

Note:

Work files created with the Natural utility NATUNLD must be processed in internal format. Work files created by the Object Handler in internal format can be processed with the Natural utility NATLOAD. However, this only applies to objects that can be transferred with NATUNLD or NATLOAD: Natural programming objects, DDMs and Natural error messages. Other objects are ignored. The work files must be created on a server of the same platform where NATUNLD or NATLOAD is applied. See also NATUNLD/NATLOAD Utilities.

Transfer Format

See also Transfer Format in the section Settings.

This format is used to transfer the sources of Natural objects, Natural command processor sources, error messages, DDMs and Adabas FDTs from one hardware platform to another. To achieve this, the Object Handler uses the Transfer format, a general record layout for work files containing load or unload data. The Transfer format is independent of any hardware platforms.

With the option "Transfer format" set, the unload function of the Object Handler reads Natural objects from a hardware platform and then restructures them.

Formatted records are written into a Natural work file that can be transported to another platform with standard file transfer services. On the target platform, the load function of the Object Handler then reads the objects from the work file and loads them into the local file or database system. The objects read from the work file are restructured according to the structure of the new hardware platform.

Use work files of Transfer format to transfer Natural objects between mainframe and UNIX/Windows platforms.

Note:

Use Transfer format to process work files created by the Natural utility SYSTRANS (see the relevant section). Work files created by the Object Handler in Transfer format can be processed with the utility SYSTRANS on all platforms.